

Arlington Cultural Council Minutes
Monday, May 9, 2016
Arlington Senior Center, 7:30pm

Present: Merli Guerra, Brigitte Buehler-Probst, Jeff Timperi, Lauren Richmond, Suzi Lubar, Nilou Moochhala

Visitor: Gaby Marroig

Called to order at 7:32pm

ITEM 1 Approval of March and April Minutes

Both the March and the April minutes were unanimously approved.

ITEM 2 RFPs

Opal Ensemble and Belmont World Film RFPs have been received and signed.

ITEM 3 Full Grant review of remaining 2016 Grants

Grant Number	Grant Recipient	Liaison	Status
2016-01	Of the Shimmering Winter Air (Opal Ensemble) \$750	Suzi Lubar	RFP received, signed by Jeff & Suzi
2016-02	Arlington All-Town Brass Band (Dan Fox) \$750	Jeff Timperi	Jeff joined the band. Band performed at A-Town jazz Fest, Feast of the East In addition to Town Night
2016-03	Family Festival (Belmont World Film) \$750	Karin Blum	RFP received, signed by Merli & Jeff
2016-04	East Arlington Public Art Initiative (Arlington Public Art) \$1,000	Nilou Moochhala	Multiple pop up events planned need to clarify which is under the grant
2016-05	Tap & Blues (Weber & O'Herin) \$500	Merli Guerra	On track for 8/13/16
2016-06	From India to Walden Pond (Yogi Shridhare) \$500	Lisbet Taylor	Turned down partial funding
2016-07	Music To Cure MS (Marion Leeds Carroll) \$500	Merli Guerra	On track for 10/30/16
2016-08	Dancing Through the Decades (Dance Caliente) \$750	Brigitte Buehler-Probst	On track for 7/14/16
2016-10	Arlington Author Salon (Robbins Library) \$1,500	Nilou Moochhala	Two sessions completed, two more in July and October
2016-11	LGBTQ Youth Arts & Mural Project (ACA) \$1,500	Lauren Richmond	On track

2016-12	Connecting Threads Exhibition (Arlington Historical Soc.) \$1,375	Suzi Lubar	On track
2016-18	New Printed Interpretive (Dallin Art Museum) \$600	Lauren Richmond	On track
2016-19	Performance at OSM and Dallin Museum (Creek River String Band) \$300	Jeff Timperi	Performances scheduled for July and September
2016-20	Memoir Writing/Reading (Pamela Powell) \$600	Karin Blum	Liaison absent
2016-21	Music by the Undertones (Old Schwamb Mill) \$375	Jeff Boudreau	Liaison absent
2016-22	Musical Storytelling Program (Powers Music School) \$250	Lisbet Taylor	Liaison absent
2016-24	Teen Publication (Marble Collection) \$200	Karin Blum	Liaison absent

ITEM 4 Publicity discussion

Lauren set up an event for each grantee on Facebook. Next year, the suggestion is to set up one event for ACC and include all grantee dates in it.

Merli would like to make publicity an officer role in 2017, with an official written description of the position and its responsibilities. The council voted unanimously to approve the creation of this position.

Suzi expressed concern about how and when the council needs to start advertising the next grant cycle. Merli will talk to Karin as well as look at past agendas and minutes.

Lauren would like to redo the website. She requested a 10 minute group brainstorming session at the June meeting. A suggestion was made to look at the Boston Cultural Council's website.

The remainder of the discussion was tabled due to Jeff B's absence.

ITEM 5 Meeting with Medford Cultural Council

Merli had a 2½ hour meeting with Gary Roberts, the Medford Cultural Council Chair. Medford gives their council \$30K a year in addition to MCC funding. They use it for grants, as well as for a longer term project. They also spent \$4K on new logo, color brochure and business cards. The brochure and cards are not dated, so they can be used across years. Their intent is to increase awareness of the public and of potential grantees. Medford would like to do a joint project with Arlington, perhaps related to the river. Their council would fund the project.

ITEM 6 Upcoming vacant Co-Chair role, general succession, and recruitment

Karin's term will end in September. All council members should think about whether they would be interested in taking on the co-chair role for the remainder of 2016. Additionally, the council should continue recruiting new members.

ITEM 7 Introduction of revamping bylaws June through July

Merli met with Town Counsel Doug Heim. The Cultural Council is not required to have bylaws. Our existing bylaws are outdated and should either be updated or discarded. Each member should read through the bylaws before the June meeting and take notes on anything they want to change or have questions about keeping. At the July meeting, each person will be given a few minutes to present their thoughts. There will not be a discussion. Council officers will meet between the June and July meetings to discuss the changes suggested. They will present the newly edited bylaws, or the decisions to remove the bylaws, at the July meeting. The council will then vote to accept the edits, or removal of the bylaws at that meeting.

ITEM 8 New business

Jeff T reported that expenses for the reception are being processed by the town. Nilou will turn in her form soon.

Jeff T suggested joining the ACAC Cultural Districts committee as a Managing Partner, and that the council should look at its goals & objectives to see if they overlap. There was a sentiment expressed that the council should look internally for partnerships before partnering with other towns such as Medford. Jeff requested that we add a discussion of the Cultural Districts to the June agenda.

The MCC has made a request regarding their Arts and Economic Impact Study. They have a survey they would like our grantees to give out at events. It is not mandatory. Liaisons should ask if their grantees would be willing to hand it out.

Merli presented to Town Meeting on 4/27. She talked about the role of council vs ACA, ACAC and explained that the council is part of MCC. She spoke about our events for this year and was well received.

The council unanimously approved recommending to the Selectman that Gaby Marroig be appointed to the council.

Action Items

- All liaisons should check in with their grantees prior to the June meeting. Check on status and request posters, brochures, etc. to be used in our Town Day booth.

- Each member should read through the bylaws before the June meeting and take notes on anything they want to change or have questions about keeping
- Liaisons should ask their grantees if they would be willing to hand out the MCC survey at their events

Upcoming Events

- June 13, Monthly meeting, Sr. Center, 7:30
- July 11, Monthly meeting, Sr. Center
- July 14 – Dance Caliente, 1-2:15
- Aug 8, Monthly meeting, Sr. Center
- August 13 - Stefanie Weber, 7pm
- Sept. 16 - Dan Fox
- Oct. 30, Music to Cure MS, 3-5pm